Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1 and 18-19 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 2-17 have been cancelled. New claims 20 and 21 have been added.

Claims 1 and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

The controlling unit 120 of Applicants' exemplary embodiment determines the resolution to be displayed by the display apparatuses. The display controlling apparatus is connectable to a predetermined number of display apparatuses. (Page 10, lines 3-5). For example, the drawing processor 121 of the controlling unit 120 may be operative to reduce the resolution of each of the contents to be displayed by the display apparatuses to one-half when the predetermined number of display apparatuses is two display apparatuses. (Page 10, lines 6-9). Thus, the controlling unit outputs the image data to "...each of a plurality of display apparatuses at a lower resolution when the predetermined number of display apparatuses is a plurality of display apparatuses," as recited in claim 1.

Alternatively, the original resolution of each of the contents to be displayed by the display apparatuses may be maintained without being reduced by the controlling unit 120. That is, the controlling unit outputs the image data to "... one display apparatus at the original resolution when the predetermined number of display apparatuses is one display apparatus," as recited in claim 1. Thus, claim 1 has been amended to recite "...a predetermined number of display apparatuses..." and to delete the terms "being connected." Accordingly, Applicants' respectfully submit that claims 1 and 18-19 are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being obvious in view of Yoshioka and Shiuan et al. Claim 1 is amended to include features not disclosed or suggested by Yoshioka and Shiuan et al., namely,

> ... wherein, the image data includes a plurality of layers,
>
> at least one layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a first display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses, and

at least one further layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a further display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses.

Basis for these amendments may be found, for example, in the specification at page 9, lines 28-35 and Figure 3.

According to Applicants' exemplary embodiment, the drawing data produced by the drawing processor 121 has a plurality of layers collectively defined as data structure. The data assigned to each of the layers L1 to L8 is stored in the VRAM 130 to form an imaginary block defined in a memory space. (Page 9, lines 28-31). That is, "...the image data includes a plurality of layers," as recited in claim 1. The drawing processor may produce frame data on the contents to be displayed by the first display apparatus from at least one of the layers. For example, the drawing processor may produce frame data on the contents to be displayed by the first display apparatus from the layers L1, L4, L5, L7 and L8 stored in the VRAM 130. (Page 9, lines 31-33 and Fig. 3). That is, "...at least one layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a first display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses," as recited in claim 1. The drawing processor may also produce frame data on the contents to be displayed by the second display apparatus from at least one further layer. For example, the drawing processor may produce frame data on the contents to be displayed by the second display apparatus from the layers L2, L3, L6, and L8 stored in the VRAM 130. (Page 9, lines 34-35 and Fig. 3). That is, "...at least one further layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a further display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses," as recited in claim 1.

Yohioka discloses a navigation system for detecting whether a vehicle is moving and for imposing restrictions on the type of data to be displayed in a second display that is installed at a position where the driver can see it. An output of the control device 4 is connected with a VRAM 10 for holding data calculated in the control device 4. An output of the VRAM 10 is connected with the first and second displays 2 and 3. The first display 2 is connected with the VRAM through an output buffer 11, and the second display 3 is connected with the VRAM through a blank signal generating circuit 12 and another output buffer 13. (Col. 3, lines 42-48). The control device 4 detects whether the vehicle is moving or not, and when the vehicle is moving, the control device 4 controls the blank signal generating circuit so that display of data to the second display is suppressed. (Col. 4, lines 18-26). That is, no data is sent to the second display when the vehicle is moving. Alternatively, the data is sent to both the first and second displays when the vehicle is not moving. That is, Yoshioka does not disclose or suggest image data layers of any kind. Further, Yoshioka does not disclose or suggest "...at least one

layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a first display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses" and "...at least one further layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a further display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses," as recited in claim 1.

Shiuan et al. includes a first display device 17 and a second display device 19. (Fig. 1). One of the display devices is selected to run a low resolution mode. The other display device is selected to run in a high resolution mode. (Para. [0034]). Shiuan et al. also discloses that both displays can run in low resolution mode. (Para [0030], lines 7-8). Shiuan et al. does not, however, select the devices to run in both modes by providing one layer to the first display device and a further layer to the second display device. Rather, Shiuan et al. selects the devices to run in both modes by exploiting the Display FIFO to supply the image/graphics data that the lower resolution display device required during a non-responding period of the CPU while executing a power saving process, and allows this non-responding period to occur within a synchronization/blank period of the other display device (typically the high-resolution display device). When the CPU power saving process takes place, the two display devices rely on different technologies to have continuous display. (Para. [0030], lines 16-24). That is, Shiuan et al. does not disclose or suggest image data layers of any kind. Thus, Shiuan et al. does not disclose or suggest "...at least one layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a first display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses" and "...at least one further layer of the plurality of layers is provided to a further display apparatus of the plurality of display apparatuses," as recited in claim 1.

Claims 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being obvious in view of Chee and He et al. The rejection of claims 16-17 is moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

New claims 20 and 21 have been added. Basis for new claims 20 and 21 may be found, for example, in the specification at page 10, lines 13-21 and Fig. 4. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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